emphasis for rural sports so that we will be able to get more and more medals in the national and international events.

श्रीमती अम्बिका सोनी: पंजाब में भी।

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Punjab will be the focus, because पंजाब के जवान लोग स्पोर्ट्स में बहुत आगे हैं।

Conditions imposed by USA on Nuclear deal

*327. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ever since the Indo-US Nuclear deal was signed, the U.S. administration has been asking for more concessions and placing the burden of meeting conditions associated with the deal entirely on India;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The July 18, 2005 understanding on India-US civil nuclear energy cooperation agreed by India and the United States of America. The elements of this understanding as contained in the Joint Statement are as follows:—

* President Bush conveyed his appreciation to the Prime Minister over India's strong commitment to preventing WMD proliferation and stated that as a responsible state with advanced nuclear technology, India should acquire the same benefits and advantages as other such States. The US President told the Prime Minister that he would work to achieve full civil nuclear energy cooperation with India as it realizes its goals of promoting nuclear power and achieving energy security.

* The US President would also seek agreement from the US Congress to adjust U.S. laws and policies, and the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but

not limited to expenditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur. In the meantime, the United States will encourage its partners to also consider this request expeditiously.

* India has expressed its interest in ITER and a willingness to contribute. The United States will consult with its partners considering India's participation.

* The United States will consult with the other participants in the Generation IV International Forum with a view towards India's inclusion.

* The Prime Minister conveyed that for its part, India would reciprocally agree that it would be ready to assume the same responsbilities and practices and acquire the same benefits and advantages as other leading countries with advanced nuclear technology, such as the United States. These responsibilities and practices consist of:

  - identifying and separating civilian and military nuclear facilities and programmes in a phased manner and filing a declaration regarding its civilian facilities with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);
  - taking a decision to place voluntarily its civilian nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards; signing and adhering to an Additional Protocol with respect to civilian nuclear facilities;
  - continuing India's unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing; working with the United States for the conclusion of a multilateral Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty;
  - refraining from transfer of enrichment and reprocessing technologies to States that do not have them and supporting international efforts to limit their spread; and
  - ensuring that the necessary steps have been taken to secure nuclear materials and technology through comprehensive export control legislation and through harmonization and adherence to Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) and Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) guidelines.

The implementation of the July 18 understanding would be guided fully and entirely by the commitments reflected in the Joint Statement

only. A Working Group to this end, headed by Foreign Secretary on the Indian side and Under Secretary for Political Affairs of the State Department on the US side, has been set up and it held its first meeting in New Delhi on October 21, 2005. It has been made very clear to the US, including at the meeting of the Working Group, that our commitments and obligations would only be those that have been spelt out in the 18 July Joint Statement. The sides have expressed their views on the road ahead and are working to evolve a roadmap. Our position remains as conveyed by Prime Minister to the Parliament on July 29, 2005, that our commitments would be conditional upon, the reciprocal to the US fulfilling its side of this understanding, and we expect a close correlation between the action to be taken by the US and India, and that Indian actions will be contingent at every stage on actions taken by the other side.

Therefore, the question of US administration asking for more concessions to be made by India and placing the burden of fulfilling commitments contained in the Joint Statement entirely on India does not arise.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I must convey my thanks to the hon. Minister for having given a detailed answer, and, my first supplementary emanates from the answer that has been provided by the hon. Minister.

The Minister has stated in his reply, "The US President would also seek agreement from the US Congress to adjust U.S. laws and policies, and the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India." Sir, my question is: Has the hon. Minister or the Ministry any infromation whether the US Congress has at all considered the ratification of July 18, 2005 agreement or understanding?

Sir, part (b) of my supplementary is: if so, whether the Congress has put some conditionalities to be complied with by India, particularly, with regard to India's independent foreign policy. If yes, what are those conditionalities that the US Congress is trying to dump on us?

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, both India and the United States of America are democracies. The President of the US and our Prime Minister had reached an understanding on July 18, 2005. (*interruptions*) It was a declaration, an understanding.

What the Americans do with regard to their democratic process is something that they must do; what we do with our democratic process is our job. Our baseline is the July 18 understanding that was reached between our Prime Minister and the US President, and, reciprocity is the key to the implementation of all the steps enumerated in the July 18 understanding. America has not done anything that compromises our position. We ourselves are capable of taking care of our logistical problems.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, my question was, whether the US Congress has ratified the understanding or the declaration.

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, at the moment, hearings are going on in the House International Relations Committee of the United States Congress, and also in the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. It has not so far been ratified. The second meeting of the Nuclear Working Group is likely to take place on the 21st and 22nd of December later this month. The President of the United States of America is coming over here. The momentum is on. Hopefully, by the time the President comes here, we will have something better to inform.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, my question has not been answered. (*Interruptions*) I must be given a chance to put my second supplementary. Sir, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. In the reply, he has stated that the implementation of the July 18th understanding would be guided fully and entirely by the commitments reflected in the Joint Statement only, and the Working Group that has been formulated, that is being headed by our Foreign Secretary, and some Under Secretary for Political Affairs of the United States. Perhaps, it suits their democratic polity. But it does not suit us, our prestige and our dignity. However, my question is: What is the ratio of the nuclear power production in India today, and what could be the possibility of expanding the role of the nuclear power generation in a country like India, which with its inherent, abundant, geo-environmental conditions, could harness more power in a less expensive way? Now, what are the expedient factors for taking nuclear fuel from the United States of America under conditionalities?

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think, this is a question which relates to a very different subject. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, we will answer.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, subsequent to the signing of the Declaration of 18th July, there have been hearings before the US Congress. I would like to take a minute of your time, Sir, to quote from what the Under Secretary for Political Affairs, who is the Chief Negotiator from their side, R. Nicholas Burns, told the House International Relations Committee on 2nd November, 2005 in Washington. He said: "Our judgement is that it would not be wise or fair to ask the Congress to make such a consequential decision, without evidence, that the Indian Government was acting on what is arguably the most important of its commitments, that is, the separation of its civilian and military nuclear facilities." I told the Indian leadership in Delhi two weeks ago that it must draw a credible and transparent plan, and begin to implement it before the Bush Administration would request for the Congressional action. I have other reports here which would suggest that what the Americans are saying very clearly is that the Government of India must not only have a plan, but must also begin to implement all the commitments that the Government of India has made in the July 18th Declaration before they move the US democratic process, as the Minister said, to ratify the Declaration of July 18th. Now, my question is, in the light of this, is there a stalemate in the implementation of this Declaration?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no stalemate. As my colleague, the hon. Minister of State has mentioned, the Working Group, which consists of our Foreign Secretary and Mr. Burns, has already had a meeting. They had a good meeting. The next meeting is planned later this month, and as far as the speculation as to what the US is going to insist, I think, I have said it before both the Houses of Parliament that the binding constraint is what is stated in the July 18th Statement, which was jointly issued by President Bush and myself, and there is, I think, strict reciprocity. If the United States does not carry out its obligations, I think, we are also free not to carry out our obligations.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, subsequent to what Mr. Manoj Bhattacharya has asked, I would put a limited question. The Working Group, which is being headed by a Foreign Secretary on the Indian side and the Under Secretary of Political Affairs of the US State Department, I think, it is an effort which was continued earlier also. I would like to know whether there is any protocol so far as the formation of group is concerned; whether a proper protocol is formed where a Foreign Secretary

representing our Government and the Under Secretary of Political Affairs of the US State Department representing the United States of America are there.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I respectfully submit that that is not a relevant question. I think there have been instances when the hon. Foreign Minister of India has had a discussions with a Deputy Secretary of the United States.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister on concluding this Indo-U.S. Nuclear deal because that will ultimately provide India access to civil nuclear energy at a cheap and clean price. Since this Agreement is going to be finally approved by the U.S. Congress, I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the Government is making any efforts to see that the U.S. Congress approves this deal.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, approval by the U.S. Congress is the concern of the United States Administration. I expect the U.S. Administration to use its full weight to get the necessary approval of the U.S. Congress.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सभापति जी, मैंने पिछले सत्र में इसी विषय पर बोलते हुए एक बात कही थी कि इस समझौते के बारे में हमारी और अमेरिका की समझ अलग-अलग है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस बात को नकार दिया था। आज भी वे बल देकर यह कह रहे हैं कि हम और वे, दोनों रेसिप्रोसिटी बेसिस पर चलेंगे और अगर वे अपनी अंडरस्टैंडिंग पूरी नहीं करते, तो हम भी नहीं करेंगे। लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे यह जानना चाहती हूं कि हमारी एक प्रमुख कमिटमेंट थी- सिविल, मिलिट्री, न्यूक्लियर फैसिलिटीज को अलग-अलग करने की। आपने बार-बार यह बात सदन में कही थी कि हमारा पूर्ण अधिकार है। हम इस सेपरेशन को अपनी इच्छा से करेंगे और चरणबद्ध तरीके से करेंगे। लेकिन, क्या आज अमेरिका भारत को यह नहीं कह रहा है कि यह सिविल मिलिट्री न्यूक्लियर सेपरेशन आपको हमारे साथ बैठ कर करना होगा, हमारी निगरानी में करना होगा और हमें दिखा कर करना होगा? अगर वह यह कह रहा है, तो क्या यह भारत की सोवरेनिटी में हस्तक्षेप नहीं है?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have stated unambiguously before this House that the decision to put certain facilities and reactors under international supervision is an entirely Indian decision

and, therefore, there is no question of any other country forcing India to do so.

SHRI AMAR SINGH: Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that India has accepted a crucial provision of a future Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty even before such an international treaty is negotiated by other nuclear weapons States.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, that is a question for the future. All that we have agreed is that we will work with other like-minded countries to facilitate the Agreement on such a Treaty. When that Treaty will materialise, I think, it is very difficult for me to say.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, the hon. Prime Minister has already replied to it because I wanted to know when they would have the next Nuclear Working Group meeting. But what will be the main agenda from the Government of India for this meeting?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I have already stated that we have taken certain commitments; the United States Government has taken certain commitments. I think, we are trying to work out ways and means by which a satisfactory solution is found and through which both India and the United States can honour their commitments.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Sir, I think there is a lot of confusion because of the definition of 'reciprocity'. The Prime Minister has stated that everything will be done in a strictly reciprocal manner. I want to seek a clarification, as to what is meant by 'reciprocity'. Is it a step-by-step that we do this, we do the separation of civil and military nuclear facilities and then the U.S. will admit to something else; then we take another step, the U.S. takes another step? Or is it that we complete the package that has been demanded by the U.S. and only then will the U.S. Congress reciprocate? I would like to have a clarification on that.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have in my statement to this House explained, at great length, what is meant by 'reciprocity', and I stand by what I stated in that statement.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, there is no doubt that this is an extremely important Agreement, but, at the same time, it is evident that it is not easy to implement. Sir, my question is, if the U.S. law-makers and

the U.S. Congress do not ratify or adjust these laws, as you said, is there any contingency plan for India?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not proper for me to disclose any contingency plan. But, if the US does not carry out its obligations, we are also free not to carry out our obligations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Opening of LoC for relief work

*328. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open points on LoC between J&K and PoK with a view to provide assistance to recent earthquake victims which has hit the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of assistance provided/ likely to be provided at these points for the victims, especially for those belonging to PoK; and

(c) the number of victims who have attended camps opened at these points and what is their response to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Following the earthquake of 8 October, 2005, India and Pakistan opened five crossing points across the Line of Control (LoC) at Nauseri - Tithwal (checkpost - Tithwal), Chakoti-Uri (checkpost - Kaman), Hajipir-Uri (checkpost-Silikot), Rawalakot-Poonch (checkpost- Chakan da Bagh), and Tattapani-Mendhar (checkpost-Balnoi) to allow for movement of relief material and people on either side of the LoC.

It has been agreed with Pakistan that with prior information and depending on feasibility, relief items can be sent in either direction and handed over to local authorities on the aforementioned crossing points.